CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A digital video recording and playback method adapted for "live-pause" recording and playback, said method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

a) ~~providing at least one~~ <u>receiving a first</u> ~~electronic audio-visual~~ program ~~source~~;

b) ~~via~~ <u>receiving</u> a program guide ~~source, at least providing~~ <u>comprising</u> program length information about ~~a~~ <u>the first</u> program ~~of interest~~;

c) converting said program length information into a corresponding buffer memory size;

d) establishing a buffer memory matching the buffer memory size determined in ~~step~~ c); ~~and~~

e) recording ~~a selected~~ <u>the first</u> program in the buffer memory established in ~~step~~ d)~~;~~ wherein said buffer memory size matches the size needed to record ~~said~~ <u>the first</u> program ~~of interest~~<u>; and</u>

<u>f) playing back a portion of the recorded first program during a "live-pause" operation.</u>

2. (Currently amended) The method in claim 1, wherein said program length information comprises the scheduled end time of ~~a~~ <u>the first</u> program ~~of interest~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The method in claim 1, wherein said program length information comprises the scheduled start time of ~~a~~ <u>the first</u> program ~~of interest~~.

4. (Currently amended) The method in claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~:

at the direction of a user, designating ~~a~~ the first program stored in said buffer

memory for long-term storage.

5. (Currently amended) The method in claim 1, wherein ~~for programs~~ if the first

program is of indefinite length, said program length information comprises as a default, a

fixed length.

6. (Currently amended) The method in claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~:

releasing said established buffer memory from recording ~~a current~~ the first

program, and making its memory space available to part of another buffer memory if

needed, ~~when~~ after the ~~current~~ first program has been recorded.

7. (Currently amended) The method in claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~:

releasing said established buffer memory from recording ~~a current~~ the first

program, and

making its memory space available to part of another buffer memory if needed,

when a user tunes in to another program.

8. (Currently amended) The method in claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~:

releasing said established buffer memory from recording ~~a current~~ the first

program, and making its memory space available to part of another buffer memory if

needed, when a user directs that recording be halted.

9. (Currently amended) A digital video recording and playback system adapted for "live-pause" recording and playback, said system comprising:

a) at least one electronic audio-visual a tuner that receives a first program source;

b) and a program guide source adapted to at least provide comprising program length information about a the first program of interest;

c) a converter adapted to convert said program length information into a corresponding buffer memory size; and

d) at least one buffer memory established and sized to match that determined by said converter, said buffer memory being adapted to record a selected the first program;

wherein said buffer memory size matches the size needed to record a the first program of interest; and

a display that displays a portion of the recorded first program during a "live-pause" operation.

10. (Currently amended) The system in claim 9, wherein said program length information comprises the a scheduled end time of a the first program of interest.

11. (Currently amended) The system in claim 9, wherein said program length information comprises the a scheduled start time of a the first program of interest.

12. (Currently amended) The system in claim 9, wherein said established buffer memory

is adapted to become, at the direction of a user, part of a long-term memory for the long-

term storage of a~~ ~~the first program stored therein.

13. (Currently amended) The system in claim 9, wherein ~~for programs~~ if the first

program is of indefinite length, said program length information comprises as a default, a

fixed length.

14. (Currently amended) The system in claim 9, wherein said established buffer memory

is adapted to be released from recording ~~a current~~ the first program, and making its

memory space available to part of another buffer memory if needed, when the ~~current~~

first program has been recorded.

15. (Currently amended) The system in claim 9, wherein said established buffer memory

is adapted to be released from recording ~~a current~~ the first program, and making its

memory space available to part of another buffer memory if needed, when a user tunes in

to another program.

16. (Currently amended) The system in claim 9, wherein said established buffer memory

is adapted to be released from recording ~~a current~~ the first program, and making its

memory space available to part of another buffer memory if needed, when a user directs

~~that~~ the recording of the first program to be halted.

17. (Currently amended) A digital video recording and playback method adapted for

"live-pause" recording and playback, said method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

    a) ~~providing at least one electronic audio-visual~~ <u>receiving a first</u> program ~~source~~;

    b) adaptively establishing a buffer memory having a size adequate to record ~~a~~ <u>the</u>

<u>first</u> program ~~of interest~~; ~~and~~

    c) recording ~~a selected~~ <u>the first</u> program in the buffer memory established in step

b)<u>; and</u>

    <u>d) playing back a portion of the recorded first program during a "live-pause"</u>

<u>operation</u>.

18. (Currently amended) The method in claim 17, wherein the size of said buffer

memory is set to one of a plurality of fixed sizes to match an estimated size of ~~a~~ <u>the first</u>

program ~~of interest~~.

19. (Currently amended) The method in claim 17, further comprising ~~the step of~~:

    at the direction of a user, designating ~~a~~ <u>the first</u> program stored in said buffer

memory for long-term storage.

20. (Currently amended) The method in claim 17, further comprising ~~the step of~~:

    releasing said established buffer memory from recording ~~a current~~ <u>the first</u>

program, and making its memory space available to part of another buffer memory if

needed, when the ~~current~~ <u>first</u> program has been recorded.

21. (Currently amended) The method in claim 17, further comprising ~~the step of~~:

releasing said established buffer memory from recording ~~a current~~ the first

program, and making its memory space available to part of another buffer memory if

needed, when a user tunes in to another program.

22. (Currently amended) The method in claim 17, further comprising ~~the step of~~:

releasing said established buffer memory from recording ~~a current~~ the first

program, and making its memory space available to part of another buffer memory if

needed, when a user directs that recording of the first program be halted.

23-28. (Cancelled)